

09/786958

JC02 Rec'd PCT/PTO 1 2 MAR 2001

NAK1-BO17

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yoshiki Sasaki et al.

Serial No.:

Filed:

For: SEALING METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
MANUFACTURING HIGH-PERFORMANCE  
GAS DISCHARGE PANEL

Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

Irvine, CA 92614

March 12, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 91
- 1 4. (Amended) The gas discharge panel production method of Claim 2, wherein
  - 2 in the surrounding unit forming step, a connection path which connects inside of the
  - 3 surrounding unit to outside of the surrounding unit is formed in the surrounding unit, and
  - 4 in the pressure adjustment sub-step, gas is exhausted from inside of the surrounding unit
  - 5 to outside of the surrounding unit via the connection path.